

## London Advertiser.

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Managing Director and Editor, John Cameron

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## Goldwin Smith and Disraeli.

Some weeks ago M. Blowitz, the famous Paris correspondent of the London Times, had the proud satisfaction of pointing out his complete vindication from an imputation which had long rested upon his honor. Many years ago, M. Blowitz had the privilege of an interview with Bismarck, in the course of which the latter uttered sentiments hostile to a foreign power. The report of the interview was mailed by M. Blowitz to the Times, but owing to some accidental delay it was not published for several weeks. In the meantime, Bismarck's relations with the power of which he had spoken ill, underwent a radical change, and became cordial in the extreme. The record of his conversation with Blowitz appeared in due course in the Times, and created a profound sensation throughout Europe. Bismarck, whom it seriously compromised, hastened to repudiate the statements ascribed to him. Under that stigma, M. Blowitz had to suffer in silence, but the hour of his triumph has come at last. In Busch's biography we have Bismarck's confession that "Blowitz was right," and Bismarck stands convicted of having blackened another's reputation to save his own.

We mention the case of Bismarck and M. Blowitz because it has a striking parallel in the relations of Disraeli with Sir Robert Peel and Prof. Goldwin Smith, some inner facts of which have just come to light. The publication of Sir Robert Peel's correspondence shows that Disraeli in 1841 wrote to Sir Robert, abjectly imploring him for office, but without success. Soon after, Disraeli turned on his former chief, and attacked him in the House with characteristic venom. Upon Sir Robert expressing surprise that Disraeli should have wanted to join his ministry, Disraeli replied with brazen effrontery: "I can assure the House that nothing of the kind has occurred. I never asked a favor of the Government, and with respect to my being solicitous for office, it is entirely unfounded." Sir Robert Peel, with splendid self-restraint, refrained from reference to the letter, which would have convicted his assailant of falsehood and perhaps have wrecked his career.

Not long after Peel's death, Prof. Goldwin Smith was privileged to read his papers for a literary purpose. He found among them the letter which is now for the first time made known to the world. Professor Smith had, like Peel, been the object of Disraeli's bitter attacks, and he could have used this letter with crushing effect. He was, strictly speaking, under no pledge of secrecy, but, actuated by the same high sense of honor as Sir Robert Peel, he forbore to refer to a paper which was not before the public. Similarly, Disraeli abused Professor Smith in the House of Commons for advocating colonial independence; but we now know from the Malmesbury correspondence and Sir W. Gregory's memoir that Disraeli had the same opinion himself, and held it to the end of his life. Disraeli's opponents have always regarded him as a charlatan, and even the Primrose dames must now wake up to find they have been burning incense to a false idol.

The conduct of Professor Smith is another illustration of the lofty principles which have ever guided him in public and private intercourse. Since coming to Canada he has also met abuse and misrepresentation with the dignified forbearance of a truly great mind, conscious of purity of motives and rectitude of purpose.

## The Canadian Savings and Loan Company.

The twenty-fourth annual report of the Canadian Savings and Loan Company, published in another column, is official evidence of continued prosperity of this old and well-established institution. The statement includes the business of only seven months, owing to the change in the ending of the company's financial year, decided on at the previous annual meeting. The net profits in that period were \$23,760.09. After paying all expenses of management, a dividend at the rate of 6 per cent per annum, amounting, with income tax thereon, to \$27,164.50, the sum of \$5,000 has been added to the reserve fund and the balance of \$1,595.59 carried forward. The reserve fund has reached the handsome total of \$225,000, equal to 30 per cent of the paid-up capital of the company. The directors have the satisfaction of reporting that all the funds of the company have been kept fully employed. The real estate held by the company, other than the office premises, consists of only three small premises, valued at \$2,300. The assets have been written down in every case where the sufficiency of the security could be questioned, and the cash value of investments now aggregate \$1,921,856.92.

The proved ability of the management of the Savings and Loan Company is a guarantee that its present stability will be maintained.

The Canadian Government has now a chance to see if it can handle the Standard Oil Trust more effectively than the legislatures and the courts of the United States have been able to do.

## The Hon. Sydney Fisher.

When Sir Wilfrid Laurier formed the present Dominion Cabinet he made up his mind that the Minister of Agriculture should be a practical farmer—a man in whom the farmers of the country could have full confidence. He turned to Sydney Fisher, M.P., who had a high standing as a progressive cultivator of the soil and cattle-raiser. It has proved a very happy choice. Prior to the advent of the present Government, strange though it may seem, no Dominion Minister of Agriculture had ever been a farmer. The statesman who came the nearest to it was our fellow-townsmen, Sir John Carling, who was born in the township of London, but who subsequently, as a brewer, had a good deal to do with one product of the farm.

Hon. Mr. Fisher is not a mere theoretical farmer statesman. Born in Montreal 49 years ago, and the son of a successful doctor, it was his good fortune to be able to obtain a university education, first at McGill University, Montreal, and subsequently at the famous seat of learning, Trinity College, Cambridge, where, in 1871, he took his degree. It was then open to him to choose any calling in life for which he felt himself adapted. He had been a zealous student of political economy as a science, and from his earliest years he was fond of life in the country. What more natural, then, than that he should see in Canada's great agricultural possibilities something that captivated his young mind and enlisted his enthusiastic energies? Some of his less generous political opponents have sneered at Mr. Fisher as a "kid-gloved farmer," but this kind of criticism cannot hurt the Minister of Agriculture. The independent farmers of Canada know him to be a successful and worthy cultivator of the soil, and an honor to their craft. It has been contended by some people, also, that college education unfits a man for being a farmer. Hon. Mr. Fisher's success is the best possible reply to such an allegation. He deliberately chose farming as his life's work. He took possession of a section of land in the Eastern Townships that was regarded as far from promising, and by his energy and intelligence has made it "blossom as the rose," and now it is one of the most productive and best farms in the country. He has made it pay. Enlisting the respect of his neighbors, he has been elected to almost all the positions of honor in the gift of his brother agriculturists. Though but 49 years of age, he has been in public life nineteen years, and he has held the positions of director of the Brome Agricultural Association, vice-president of the Provincial Dairy Association, president of the Ensilage and Stock-Feeding Association, and vice-president of the Provincial Fruit-Growers' Association, of which he was one of the founders. He is also a breeder of stock, and an author of some note on subjects pertaining to agriculture.

The recent banquet given in Mr. Fisher's honor at Bedford was, therefore, no mere empty tribute, even if the Minister of Agriculture had been but holding his ordinary record as a progressive farmer, and the parliamentary exponent of the needs of the agriculturists of the Dominion. When, twenty odd years ago, Mr. Fisher went to the Eastern Townships "to grow up with the country" as a farmer, he found the entire district of Bedford returning Conservatives to represent them both in the Dominion Parliament and in the Quebec Legislature, and he has powerfully aided to entirely reverse this condition of affairs, and today both in the House of Commons and in the Quebec Legislature the district of Bedford has a solid Liberal delegation. So much for honest and straightforward exemplification of correct principles of government and intelligent work to secure their triumph.

But it is as Minister of Agriculture that we wish particularly to refer to the record of Hon. Mr. Fisher, and in performing the duties appertaining to that office, the honorable gentleman permits no political considerations to interfere. He knows what is necessary to promote the interests of farmers, and he spares not himself nor his staff to promote those interests. He had not been in office six months when he went to Washington and convinced the Agricultural Department authorities there that it was for the welfare of neither country to longer continue the vexatious quarantine regulations. We in Ontario know how much benefit the removal of that very great hindrance to the speedy marketing of our surplus cattle has been to the farming community, and, incidentally, to all of us. As Mr. Ironsides, the big exporter, has well put it, the Canadian farmer has been able to get double prices for certain classes of cattle as a consequence of this change. Mr. Fisher has perfected the cold storage system, and the result has been a great increase in the shipments of Canadian butter from Canada, and the enhancement of the value of that commodity to the Canadian producer. The result of this improvement, as Mr. Fisher has pointed out, is "that the whole Canadian butter market in England has appreciated in comparison with all other butter to the extent of 10 shillings per hundred-weight. Last year 209,000 packages of butter were shipped from the port of Montreal, and taking only the increased value of that butter on the English market, the actual increase of price which the Canadian farmer got was \$313,000 in the one season, and the whole cost of the cold storage to this country has been less than \$70,000 in the same season." Under the cold storage system, as perfected by the

Minister of Agriculture, we are also exporting meats and fruits at a profit, and an immense trade in these products is certain to be speedily built up.

Hon. Mr. Fisher has also adopted means to show that not only Ontario and Quebec, but the Lower Provinces and those in the far Northwest, are well adapted for dairying, as well as for grain-growing and stock-raising, and thus the country as a whole is being brought before the world as a desirable place of residence as it has never been before. By his action in testing Canadian cattle herds for tuberculosis at various points, Mr. Fisher has thoroughly reassured our people, while at the same time he has provided an excellent advertisement for the Dominion abroad, as he has demonstrated by the most effective means known to science that Canada is unusually free from cattle disease. Indeed, our cattle bill of health has been shown to be practically clean, and where disease was found to exist to a very limited extent, reliable information was sent out by the Minister to aid effectively in securing its abatement and speedy extermination.

Nor have the important institutions under the care of the Minister of Agriculture been neglected by Mr. Fisher, or left entirely to assistants, who might or might not thoroughly comprehend their duty. Mr. Fisher has exercised an intelligent supervision over all. When he entered office he found in the department 98 clerks, drawing \$75,000 in salaries. He informed his constituents the other day that he is this year getting more work done by 68 clerks, with salaries aggregating \$63,000, and their duties are more efficiently performed. When he took office he found the quarantine department with a general inspector who had never visited the stations in either the Maritime Provinces or the Pacific coast. Since the new government took office in 1896 its inspector has visited and inspected all these stations. None of Mr. Fisher's predecessors had ever visited all the government experimental farms, one of them, extraordinary though it may seem, never visited the Central Experimental Farm, which can be reached by an ordinary street car from Ottawa. In no department, therefore, was the time so ripe for a change of men and methods than in the Department of Agriculture, and even his political opponents are moved to confess the Hon. Sydney Fisher has been most successful in his inauguration of a better era.

Mr. Fisher, both by his contributions to the press, by his addresses and by his example as a worker on the farm, has taught and is teaching his fellow agriculturists that their calling is one of the noblest in the land. He has manifested in his own person that farming can best be carried on if it has supplied to it brain as well as brawn and muscle, and he has aided most effectively in keeping the great and valuable resources of Canada before the people of the Dominion as well as before the world. We are daily hearing of good results flowing from his recent visit to Great Britain, in which he commanded public attention for the products of Canada as it had never previously been commanded. His conferences there with the great buyers of agricultural products have already borne excellent fruit. Personally Mr. Fisher is a plain-spoken, unostentatious, kindly-hearted country gentleman, who makes friends wherever he goes. If we in Western Ontario have not seen him, often as many of us would have liked, let us remember that Canada is a big country, and that the official duties of a Minister when Parliament is not sitting are onerous, and those of the Department of Agriculture increasingly so.

## Patchwork Lives.

One likes to think of a life as shaped on a well-thought-out plan and daily growing in beauty and usefulness. We are wont to boast of the many advantages that people have today, especially in large centers of population. That there are advantages to which our fathers were strangers, and from which the dwellers in villages and small towns are shut out, no one will attempt to deny. With these advantages there come, however, certain drawbacks, and the pressure of multitudinous engagements on certain classes of the community is so great, that instead of the plan of life being homogeneous, it is more apt to be a bit of patchwork.

Take the city clergyman, as a "horrible example." Aside from his own proper work, he has not only church courts of various grades, but a denominational association of ministers and an undenominational association, as well as charity boards of various sorts, and philanthropic gatherings too numerous to be described, and special services at this, that and the other charitable institution, until it is a wonder how he can attend them all, make preparation for his Sabbath work, and discharge his various obligations to his own parishioners.

In the desperate effort to attend to all these a certain type has been developed, to be found in this province, in fullest bloom possibly in the city of Toronto. He is always in a hurry; drops into a gathering a half-hour late; sits uneasily for fifteen or twenty minutes, until he can be sure that his presence has been noted, and then with an apologetic smile tips-toes out of the room, and away in post-haste to drop into some other gathering to show his interest. Pastoral visiting is necessarily perfunctory performed. The good old days of catechizing are past, and he does well, this busy clergyman, if he can give ten minutes to a visit, and discover in that brief space of time if Johnnie is recovering from the measles, and if Grandma has

got the better of "la grippe." Such a life must necessarily be patchwork, and doubtless when the time for saying farewell to these tasks comes, many a worthy clergyman will think of the celestial city as a place where he shall have somewhat of a "fine leisure."

We are afraid that the type is not confined to the clergy, but that business men, and fashionable ladies, and even the children are bitten with the desire to attempt a great many things rather than do a few things well. It is easy to describe the disease, but where is the physician who shall provide the remedy?

## Ontario's Envious Position.

The financial position of the Province of Ontario so lucidly and completely set forth by the Provincial Treasurer, should be a matter of great pride and satisfaction, the more so when we invite comparison with any of our sister provinces. The provincial budgets in Ontario and Quebec were brought down almost at the same time, and the contrast is instructive. The new Liberal Government is doing heroic and successful work in pulling Quebec out of the financial slough into which preceding administrations plunged it, but it has a heavy burden to carry. The revenues of Quebec last year were \$4,177,656; those of Ontario were only \$3,647,353. And yet Ontario is a much richer province. The larger receipts in Quebec are partly explained by the fact that the province appropriates all the monies in Ontario one-half is remitted to the municipalities. In the last five years the Quebec Government has received \$2,783,864 from this source. In the same period the Ontario Government only cleared \$1,248,755, after handing back to the people, through the municipalities, \$1,944,851. In addition the Quebec Government imposes taxation on financial institutions, which Ontario does not, although Mr. Harcourt may adopt such measures this year.

The expenditure of Quebec last year was \$4,364,686 and of Ontario only \$3,803,081. It is an analysis of this expenditure that reveals how incomparably superior is Ontario's condition. This province lays out far greater sums for public institutions, for education and for the promotion of agriculture. We are enabled to do better because in Quebec interest upon debt eats up nearly one-half of the receipts. Last year this interest amounted to \$1,591,177. The floating debt of Quebec is \$2,309,247 and the funded debt \$4,283,841, reduced, however, by a sinking fund of \$10,000,000. Ontario has no debt and a surplus of \$5,000,000. Ontario has spent \$3,000,000 in erecting asylums, and Quebec has spent nothing. Our sister province has no asylums or reformatory institutions. The grants for such purposes are paid to religious and other corporations. Last year Quebec spent for the maintenance of lunatics, \$255,000; Ontario spent for the same humane object \$626,141. These proportions hold good in all expenditures on philanthropic agencies. The record of the Ontario Government in sustaining and aiding the works of charity and humanity constitutes its proudest claim to public gratitude.

The financial and legislative outlook for this province is as bright as ever, and so long as its affairs are in the hands of the present Administration, the enviable position of Ontario will be maintained.

## The Huron and Erie Loan and Savings Company.

The report of this company, to be found in another column, will doubtless be of interest to Advertiser readers. Just as in some quarters one hears the expression, "as sound as the Bank of England," so here the name of "Huron and Erie" is taking its place as a synonym of strength and stability. It should be a source of pride to Londoners that such is the case, that in our midst is an institution which has fairly outstripped older competitors in larger financial centers, and stands today, by itself, a leader of its kind. The Huron and Erie has in '98 outshone all its previous, brilliant records, which speaks volumes for the management.

We find that the company has been able from the profits of the year to pay dividends at the rate of 9 per cent per annum, write \$5,000 off the value at which its office premises were taken into account, add over \$5,000 to the reserve fund, now amounting to \$780,000. The wisdom of accumulating this large reserve is shown in the confidence of the investors, the company having entrusted to its care on deposit and debenture over four million dollars, and there having been during the year an increase of \$120,000 in the amount of debentures issued to Canadian investors alone. The losses have been very light, less than a dollar on every \$3,000 invested.

As a country grows in wealth, there is a largely increasing class of investors, who require security rather than a high rate of interest, and a mutual advantage is derived when a loan company aims to meet their wants. To this, probably, the growing success of the Huron and Erie is largely attributable. May it continue to prosper and enlarge its sphere of usefulness.

Ontario starts the year with \$450,121 in the bank.

An ice trust with a capital of \$60,000,000 has been formed to control the ice output of New York, Connecticut and Pennsylvania. Well, who cares in this weather?

## THE RUNIANS, GRAY, CARRIE COMPANY.

TELEPHONE 1048.

## New Dress Goods

Our stock of Dress Goods for the spring season far exceeds anything we have ever before handled. This is saying a great deal—hardly calls for anything more; for beyond doubt in high class Dress Goods this store holds a premier position. Everything is bought direct from the makers—the selection of our own buyers, who are thoroughly acquainted with the taste of Canadian shoppers. In everything that goes to make a Dress Goods store we are leaders. Quality is our talisman, and yet with this never satisfied. Prices are always reasonable here. Those who buy now will fare better than those who wait.

## Black Mohair Crepons

Black Mohair Crepons, blister effects, beautiful raised designs, 44 inches wide, special, 90c.

Black Mohair Crepons, handsome raised designs, etc., \$1.

Black Mohair Crepons, newest designs, \$1 19.

Mohair Crepons, beautiful goods, \$1 25.

Mohair Crepons, elegant effects, \$1 50.

Priestley's Wool Poplins, full range of these celebrated goods in black at 50c, 75c, \$1, and upward.

## SILKS.

New Shades in Taffeta, Rd. Blue and Cerise, very scarce coloring, at 85c and \$1.

## GINGHAMS

Ginghams, small and medium, solid checks, 8c.

Scotch Ginghams, 12½c and 15c.

Handsome Goods in Checks and Stripes, 20c and 25c.

Beautiful Zephyrs, styles you won't see anywhere else, 30c and 35c.

## Organdy Muslins

In all the very latest designs in stripes and dainty figures, ranging in price at 25c, 35c and 40c.

The best colorings and designs are being picked up rapidly.

White Organdies, a magnificent range for 20c and 60c.

English and American Prints and Cambrics in stripes and checks, the very latest designs and colorings, 12½c.

Come Early—Remember we close tonight at 9:30.

## The Runians, Gray, Carrie Co

IMPORTERS.

208, 210, 210½, 212 Dundas Street, London.

## WHAT OTHERS SAY.

## A Phrase That Bites.

[Cleveland Plaindealer.]

It is remarkable how quickly Kipling's "White Man's Burden" has become a household expression. Probably there isn't a newspaper from the Atlantic to the Pacific that doesn't make daily use of it.

## An Umbrella Trust.

[St. Louis Post-Dispatch.]

An umbrella trust, with a capital of \$2,000,000, is a recent New Jersey incorporation. The man who would buy an umbrella and trust his friend who borrows it to return it must now pay the trust's tax first.

## Eagan Will Not Starve.

[Buffalo Express.]

The mercy of the president will enable Eagan to draw his salary of \$5,000 a year during the period of his suspension, his only sacrifice being the extras, amounting to about \$75 a month. The example of Eagan's punishment will hardly deter other officers from abusing their superior.

## Will Grow Shorter, Not Longer.

[Toronto Globe.]

Mr. Hardy is reported as saying that if the Globe did not report Mr. Whitney's remarks on education "it did not do its full duty." Most people think that the party newspapers give political speeches more space than they are fairly entitled. Verbatim reports would make life scarcely worth living; and the chances are that with the increasing demand upon the space of newspapers, the reports of parliamentary proceedings and of political meetings will grow shorter instead of longer.

## LIGHT AND SHADE.

## Philosophie.

"While ebullient youth," said the Corn-fed Philosopher, "has glittering hopes of seeing his name on the roll of fame, sedate middle age is glad to have it on the pay roll."—Indianapolis Journal.

## When John's Away.

His pipe is cold upon the shelf,  
His jolly dog's a lone stray;  
The house is quite unlike itself  
When John's away.

"I miss his whistle on the stair,  
We seem to read between the lines,  
A wistful yearning for his home,  
Our love divine.

Oh! army blue that shines so bright,  
Oh! army blue that looks so warm,  
It folds full many a heartache tight,  
That uniform.

—Leslie's Weekly.

## Don't Worry.

If man does, day by day, ever the best he can by the light he has, he has no need to regret, no need to worry. If we look back upon our past life we will see how, in the marvelous working of events, the cities of our greatest hap-

piness and of our fullest success have been built along the rivers of our deepest sorrows, our most abject failures. We then realize that our present happiness or success would have been impossible had it not been for some terrible affliction or loss in the past—some wondrous potent force in the evolution of our character or our fortune. It should be a wondrous stimulant to us in bearing the trials and sorrows of life.—Saturday Post.

## No Nonsense.

"When I go out a-shopping," says an old lady, "I allers asks for what I wants, and if they have it and it is cheap, and it's suitable, and I feel inclined to take it, and it can't be got at any place for less, I most allers takes it, without chaffering all day as most people do."

Focal Distance.  
A sure sign of old age—write it down as the truth—  
Is to prate like a sage on the follies of youth.

Money and time are the heaviest burdens of life, and the unhappiest of all mortals are those who have more of either than they knew how to use.—Johnson.

## SHED SKIN 20 TIMES

Little Boy's Terrible Eczema. Mass of Sores from Head to Foot. Not an Inch of Body Unaffected. Skin Came off with Bandages.

Screams Were Heart-Breaking. 3 Doctors & Institute no Avail. CURED BY CUTICURA.

My little boy broke out with an itching rash. I tried three doctors and medical college but he kept getting worse. There was not one square inch of skin on his whole body unaffected. He was one mass of sores, and the stench was frightful. At the time I was induced to try CUTICURA ointment, he was so bad that I had to cut his hair all off, and put the CUTICURA ointment on him on bandages, as it was impossible to touch him with the bare hand. In removing the bandages they would take the skin with them, and the poor child's screams were heart-breaking. After the second application of CUTICURA (ointment) I saw signs of improvement, and the sores began to dry up. His skin peeled off twenty times, but now he is entirely cured. I used CUTICURA Resolvent for his blood, and a stronger and healthier boy you never saw than he is to-day.

ROBT WATTIAM, 4728 Cook St., Chicago, Ill.

**CUTICURA**  
Begins with the Blood and Ends with the Skin and Scalp.  
That itchy, scaly, and inflamed skin of Eczema, and the itching, burning, and inflammation of CUTICURA, and the most torturing, disgusting, and humiliating skin disease, and all other eruptions of the skin, scalp, and blood, with loss of hair, when the best physicians and all other remedies fail.  
Sold throughout the world. PORTER D. APP. C. CO., Proprietors, Boston. How to Cure Itching Skin Diseases, free. **SAVE YOUR SKIN** Hands and Hair by using CUTICURA Soap.